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TELEGRAM

April 13, 2002

To: SECSTATE WASHDC - IMMEDIATE
Action: WHA
From: AMEMBASSY CARACAS (CARACAS 997 - IMMEDIATE)
TAGS: ASEC, ECON, PGOV, ENRG, EPET, PREL, VE
Captions: SENSITIVE, SENSITIVE
Subject: PDVSA'S PRODUCTION STATUS - APRIL 13
Ref: CARACAS 000995

Summary

1. (SBU)

Overall operations are gradually, but steadily, returning to full capacity. Maritime shipments are returning to schedule, but loading backlogs exist at all ports. Gasoline, aviation fuel, and fuel for the nation's electrical production facilities are sufficient to cover the timeframe needed until normal deliver schedules are resumed. End Summary.

Crude oil production rates

2. (SBU) According to the PDVSA source, as of late afternoon, April 12th, crude oil production was as follows:
west fields: 800,000 bbl/day
east fields: 505,000 bbl/day
south fields: 100,000 bbl/day
(Note: the information provided did not provide details on these figures, particularly whether the "faja" heavy oil production is included.) PDVSA maintains it is intensifying efforts to steadily increase these figures.

Status of operations

3. (SBU) As of Friday, April 12th, all "processing operations" at the El Palito refinery were out of service. Electrical power, which had been disrupted, is now back in service. Processing of refined products will commence April 13, and operations will be back to normal in an estimated 4-7 days. At the El Palito port facility, one tanker is presently loading unleaded gasoline, and another 5 vessels are awaiting loading.

4. (SBU) On Friday, the Puerto La Cruz refinery was operating at a rate of 95,000 bbl/day - 60 percent of capacity. One tanker was loading at the port and another 8 tankers were awaiting cargoes.

5. (SBU) The country's largest refinery complex, Paraguana, was rapidly increasing processing rates; its Cardon facility had reached 128,000 bbl/day (45 percent of capacity) and the Amuay facility was up to 349,000 bbl/day (65 percent of capacity). PDVSA states the Amuay facility will reach 100 percent of its processing capacity by the morning of April 14th. There are 5 tankers awaiting cargoes at the Cardon port facility and 6 tankers at Amuay's port.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L MILLS
DATE/CASE ID: 06 JUN 2006 200304421

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Aviation fuel

6. (SBU) The PDVSA aviation fuel subsidiary, DELTAVEN, is reporting the following fuel reserves:
Maiquetia Airport (Caracas): normal fuel operations; 3 days supply of JET A1 fuel.
Porlamar Airfield (Margarita): normal fuel operations; 7 days supply of JET A1 fuel.
La Chinita Airfield: normal fuel operations; 5 days supply of JET A1 fuel.
PDVSA is reporting the rest of the country's airports have an average of 3 days supply of fuel; deliveries are expected to normalize this weekend.

Electrical sector

7. (SBU) PDVSA reports "acceptable" inventories of fuel oil for the nation's thermal-electrical generating plants. CENEC, the state-owned generation company serving eastern Venezuela has 12 days fuel supply on hand. ENELVEN, the generating company that serves the western area of the country is operating at 80 percent

of generating capacity; there are no figures on fuel inventory. EDC, the privately-owned supplier of electricity to the Caracas urban area, is once again producing at 100 percent capacity; no fuel shortages are anticipated. According to PDVSA, there is sufficient energy for both industrial and consumer power needs nationwide.

Gas service stations

8. (SBU) Of PDVSA's 893 gas service stations, an estimated 8 percent have unspecified "inventory shortages." The average service station gas supply nationwide would last 2 days without replenishment. Normal deliveries are expected to resume this weekend.

SHAPIRO

7.

Additional Addressees:

cc:

OPEC COLLECTIVE
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AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY LIMA
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AMEMBASSY MEXICO

Distribution:

TED8621
ACTION WHA-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AID-00	CEA-01	CIAE-00	CTME-00	DINT-00
	DODE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-00	EXIM-01	E-00	UTED-00
	VC-00	FRB-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	ITC-01
	L-00	AC-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OES-01	OIC-02	OMB-01
	OPIC-01	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00	P-00	SP-00
	SS-00	STR-00	TEST-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	ASDS-01
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NSC FOR AMB MAISTO

SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, ECON, PGOV, ENRG, EPET, PREL, VE

SUBJECT: PDVSA'S PRODUCTION STATUS - APRIL 13

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End Cable Text

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